(d) 12 village Panchayats have been provided with STD facility in West Bengal.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

(g) No demand is pending with the Circle as STD facility is provided only on specific request from Village Panchayats.

New Post Offices in Bihar, Maharashtra and U.P.

4178. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposals from the Government of Bihar, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh for opening of new post offices in their States;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/ being taken thereon, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to upgrade any post offices in the above States;

(d) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;

(e) whether the Government propose to expand the speed post services in the above States; and

(f) if so, the details thereof, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) No proposal from the Government of Bihar and Maharashtra for opening of new Post Offices has been received. One proposal for opening of a new Post Office in village Saifai, District Etawah, U.P. was received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh. The Post Office has been sanctioned.

(c) and (d) Post Offices are sanctioned/upgraded subject to norm based justification, availability of resources and depending upon merits of each case.

(e) No, Sir, at present there is no proposal to expand Speed Post Services in Bihar, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

Selection of Films

4179. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether some private distributors/producers have been ignored for their offer for providing weekend night films and National Film Development Corporation has been preferred for this assignment;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether MRTPC has given directive to Doordarshan authorities in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(e) the present status of the proposal;

(f) whether the Government have received complaints in this regard; and

(g) the details of the films which have been shown twice in a year, twice in two years and reasons therefor and steps taken to ensure fair selection of films?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). With a view to ensuring the telecast of good films and earning of revenue, Doordarshan singed a Memorandum of Understanding with National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) on 8-8-96 for telecast of films on Fridays/Saturdays on DD-1 whereby NFDC was authorised to procure films from private producers/distributors.

(c) to (e). On a petition made to the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices (MRTP) Commission, the Commission has directed Doordarshan on 29-8-96 to consider the offers of private producers at par with NFDC till the date of next hearing. This direction of MRTP Commission is being followed by Doordarshan. The next date of hearing of the case has been fixed for 23-12-1996.

(f) No, Sir.

(g) No film has been shown twice in one year on DD-1 and only one film "Deewar" offered by NFDC has been shown twice in two years as a special case because of its popularity. Proposals of films from NFDC and other private parties are received *suo-moto*. All the films are telecast which are found telecast worthy by the Preview Committee.

Illegal Construction

4180. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware about the illegal construction on the land of the Department of Communication, in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof, location-wise;

(c) the time by which the above constructions are likely to be demolished; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to stop illegal construction in future?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) :

(a) *Departments of Post and Telecom*

Yes, Sir.